

Confession & Absolution

Name: _____

What is confession? Confession has two parts. First, that we _____ our _____, and second, that we receive _____, that is, _____, from the pastor as from _____ Himself, not _____, but firmly believing that by it our _____ are forgiven before God in heaven.

What sins should we confess? Before God we should plead _____ of _____ sins, even those we are not _____ of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer, but before the _____ we should confess only those sins which we _____ and feel in our _____.

Which are these? Consider your _____ in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you're a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been _____, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, _____, or quarrelsome? Have you _____ someone by your _____ or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, _____ anything, or done any _____?

Q261 – What is the first part of confession? The first part of confession is that we confess, or _____, our sins.

Q262 – What sins should we confess before God? Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the _____.

Q263 – What sins should we confess before our neighbor? Before our neighbor we should confess all sins we have _____ him or her.

Q264 – What sins are we encouraged to confess privately before our pastor or confessor? Before the pastor or confessor we confess those sins which we know and _____ in our hearts, especially those that _____ us.

NOTE: No one may be _____ to make private confession.

Q264 – What sins are we encouraged to confess privately before our pastor or confessor?

- 1C) Have I put God _____ in my life? What things have I allowed to become more _____ than following/worshipping God?
- 2C) Have I taken God's name in vain by cursing or seeking out _____ outside of the _____ faith?
- 3C) Have I attended _____ regularly? Have I been faithful in daily _____?
- 4C) Have I honored my _____ or people in _____ over me?
- 5C) Have I harbored _____, revenge, or _____ against anyone?
- 6C) Have I entertained dirty _____, told dirty _____, looked at dirty _____?

- 7C) Have I _____ anything or been _____?
- 8C) Have I _____ about or harshly _____ anyone?
- 9-10C) Have I been _____ of any thing or relationship that belongs to anyone?

Q265 – What is the second part of confession? The second part of confession is that we _____ absolution, that is, forgiveness of sins.

Q266 – How should we regard the absolution (forgiveness) spoken by the pastor? We should receive the pastor's absolution as from _____ Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in _____.

"It is not the voice or _____ of man that speaks it, but it is the Word of God, who forgives sin, for it is spoken in God's _____ and by God's _____" (AC XXV 3)

Q267 – What assurance do I have that my private confession to the pastor will remain confidential? The pastor is _____ not to tell anyone else of sins told him in _____ confession, for those sins have been _____.

Q268 – What is the benefit of private confession and absolution? In private confession and absolution, God Himself _____ the pastor forgives each _____ the sins that are _____.

"If there is a _____ that feels its sins and _____ consolation, it has here a sure _____ when it hears in God's Word that through a man God _____ and absolves him from his sins" (LC, Brief Exhortation 14).

A Short form of Confession

The penitent says: Dear confessor, I ask you please to _____ my confession and to pronounce forgiveness in order to fulfill God's _____. I, a poor sinner, plead _____ before God of all sins. In particular I confess before you that as a servant, maid, etc. I, sad to say, serve my master unfaithfully, for in this and that I have not done what I was _____ to do. I have made him angry and caused him to curse. I have been _____ and allowed damage to be done. I have also been offensive in words and deeds. I have quarreled with my peers. I have grumbled about the lady of the house and cursed her. I am _____ for all this and I ask for _____. I want to do _____.

Then the Confessor shall say: God be _____ to you and strengthen your _____. Amen. Do you _____ that my forgiveness is God's forgiveness?

The penitent says: Yes, dear confessor.

Then the Confessor shall say: Let it be _____ for you as you believe. And I, by the _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ, _____ you your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Go in _____.